

S/N unknown

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: BRAY et al. Serial No.: unknown  
Filed: concurrent herewith Docket No.: 10927.5USC2  
Title: DYNAMICALLY CONTROLLED CRYSTAL GROWTH SYSTEM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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By: 

Name: Chris Stordahl

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patents Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice.

Please add claims 39 and 40.

39. (New) An apparatus for crystal growth, comprising:

a growth chamber comprising a first section for containing a solution comprising a substance to be crystallized and a solvent for the substance to be crystallized and a second section divided from the first section, whereby evaporation of the solvent from the solution causes crystallization of the substance to be crystallized from solution;

a gas flow source in communication with the second section of the growth chamber, for providing a gas flow to remove evaporated solvent vapor from the growth chamber;

a gas flow source control for changing the gas flow rate to the growth chamber;  
and

an aggregation or nucleation detector for determining the onset of aggregation or nucleation in the solution by laser light scattering and creating a signal for the gas flow source control to change the gas flow rate in response to the onset of aggregation or nucleation.

40. (New) A method of growing crystals, comprising:

providing in a first section of a growth chamber a solution comprising a solvent in which a substance to be crystallized is dissolved, whereby solvent can evaporate from the solution;

supplying a gas flow to a second section of the growth chamber, the second section being divided from the first section, to remove evaporated solvent from the growth chamber, whereby evaporation of the solvent from the solution causes crystallization of the substance to be crystallized from the solution; and

analyzing the solution by laser light scattering during evaporation of the solvent to detect an onset of nucleation and changing the gas flow rate upon detection of the onset of nucleation.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to cancel claim 1 and add new claims 39 and 40.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

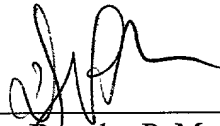
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371.5237.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 26 February 2002

By



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DPM:hjh